

ABSTRACT

A stage assembly (10) for moving and positioning a device (26) includes a device stage (14), a stage mover assembly (16), and a follower assembly (18). The stage mover assembly (16) moves the device stage (14) along an X axis, along a Y axis and about a Z axis. The follower assembly (18) includes a first follower guide (76) and a first follower frame (80). The first follower guide (76) supports the first follower frame (80) and allows the first follower frame (80) to move along the Y axis. Further, the first follower frame (80) supports the device stage (14) and allows the device stage (14) to move along the Y axis, along the X axis, and about the Z axis. Importantly, the first follower frame (80) is moved along the Y axis with a first follower mover (84). With this design, the device stage (14) can be made relatively thin vertically and the control lines (20) to the device stage (14) can be relatively short.

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